

LATE SOUTHERN NEWS.

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Punishment for Refusing Rebel Money.

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Significant Confessions and Admissions.

REBEL AFFAIRS AT VICKSBURG.

THEIR VIGILANCE IN WATCHING OUR OPERATIONS.

They Feel Confident of Resisting an Attack.

FROM THE FRONT OF BRAGG'S ARMY.

MISCELLANEOUS SOUTHERN NEWS.

Richmond papers to the 18th inst. are received, from which we extract the following:

A MEMBER OF CONGRESS IN CORRESPONDENCE

From The Richmond Dispatch, Feb. 10.

"A few days since a lady who came through the lines at Fredericksburg under flag of truce brought a message from the Hon. D. W. Voorhees of Indiana to Gen. Jackson, to the effect that he (Stonewall) was the only man living who could beat him (Voorhees) in his Congressional District, so great is the admiration of the distinguished chieftain in the South-West."

A DISGUSTING SIGHT.

In the same paper is the following local item:

"On yesterday morning, in Broad street, between 9 and 10 o'clock, a most shocking and revolting sight was witnessed. A stalwart negro, bare-headed and bare-footed, walking in the middle of the street, broken out in the worst form of small-pox, under the guard, apparently of a trooper. In the name of common decency and humanity, let this not occur again."

FLOGGING IN THE REBEL ARMY.

On Monday, in the Rebel Congress, a bill was passed abolishing flogging in the army, which, it would be inferred from the discussion, has hitherto prevailed to a grievous extent.

PUNISHMENT FOR REFUSING REBEL MONEY.

Mr. Foster, of Alabama, in the rebel house, offered a resolution instructing "the Military Committee to report a bill providing for the conscribing and placing in the public service in the field, every white male citizen resident or sojourner within the Confederate States, without regard to age, physical disability, trade, profession or pursuit, whenever it may be satisfactorily ascertained that such person has refused to receive Confederate money for any article sold or offered for sale by him; also for selling, or attempting to sell, any article whatever at an advance of more than — per cent upon the price charged two years ago on the same articles."

A dispatch from Charleston, S. C., dated the 9th, says "a Yankee fleet of over seventy vessels was in Port Royal harbor on Saturday last. The fleet comprised fifty-two transports, fifteen large war steamers, and four or five iron-clads. Evidently some movement is on hand."

CARGOES OF BRITISH STEAMERS OFFERED FOR SALE.

SALE.

The cargoes of the "British steamers" Calypso and Douglas, consisting of groceries, drugs, shoes, leather, and a large assortment of dry goods, are advertised to be sold in Charleston.

WESTERN VIRGINIA LANDS OFFERED FOR SALE.

Forty thousand acres of land in Kanawha county, Va., are offered for sale on "the most reasonable terms." The sales to be effected in Richmond, and title guaranteed by "abundant and satisfactory security."

REBEL FEARS AND HOPES.

Correspondence of the Knoxville Whig.

RICHMOND, Friday, Jan. 30, 1863.

For the first time since the war began, each Southern army is held at bay by a superior, more skilful, and more勇敢的 force. It got into a period where its prospect of good fortune, which it had lost in the course of its army operations, was as bright as at the very start. Should we lose Arkansas, and Holmes escape into Texas, we need entertain no fears. Texas is an empire within itself, with whose resources Magruder will be enabled to redeem all that we have lost. Still, at this moment, the aspect of affairs in the West is by no means flattering.

Bragg's army must be strengthened, cost what it may. His regiments must be recruited. He has not men enough to meet Rosecrans. He had them not at Murfreesboro; but now Rosecrans' force is not less than 100,000 strong. The recruits from Bragg's army must come from the camps of instruction, and hence the determination of Congress to extend and enforce the provisions of the Conscription act.

Were it not for the utter demoralization of the Union armies; were it not that the quasi rebellion of the Governors of New-Jersey and New-York had affected Burnside's army as thoroughly as that of Rosecrans'; which had felt more seriously the influence of Richardson, Bright and Vandalligham, were these Union forces as brave and devoted to the cause they have espoused as they were twelve months ago, Bragg's army would now occupy Chattanooga, Memphis, or Atlanta. In all these considerations we find the inducements influencing Congress to enact a most stringent law, bringing into the field the whole of the South capable of bearing arms.

From The Raleigh (N. C.) Progress, Jan. 3.

If Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah and Vicksburg hold out against the impending assault, and the enemy are repulsed and damaged, it will go far toward closing the war; but should they fall, the drooping war spirit of the North will take new courage and the struggle will go on. Much depends upon the next few months, and we trust that the heroism of our men, upon which we can always rely, and the favor of Providence, so clearly on our side hitherto, may sustain us now, and that a series of victories may give new lustre to our arms and bring peace to our distressed land.

The Richmond Whig has heard of the arrest and release of A. B. Boileau, in Philadelphia. It says:

"The demonstration was altogether the most creditable to the spirit of the Northern people which has been made in that quarter since the advent of Lincolnism. There was no mistaking its character. It meant work, and bloody work. Civil war at home, sooner than submission to tyranny, was boldly preached, and vociferously applauded. The cruel and cowardly set at Washington at once saw that there was no alternative but to back it. If everybody knows the surrender was against the law—it will that it was extorted from them. Instead of giving any credit for moderation, they only incur costs for timidity and weakness."

AFFAIRS AT VICKSBURG.

From The Fishkill Whig, Jan. 30.

The enemy have at last got a boat into the canal, the prognostications of the "whalers," who last summer said the canal could never be made navigable, and that it was to be a dead letter, were not far from the truth. They are now steadily doing their best to recompute their shattered ranks. They continue in somewhat treacherous straits for lack of subsistence. Up to the time of the battle of Bull Run, Grant had 10,000 men and 1,000 horses, and was holding fifteen miles out, but since then General Dick McCaffrey has seriously retarded their operations by destroying a locomotive and construction train and a bridge a few miles this side of Nashville. The heavy rains of last week have washed away the bridge across Stones River, near Murfreesboro, which was the last bridge across the river.

We have also positive information that when Gen. John H. Morgan left the Louisville and Nashville Railroad in the early part of January, he had 1,000 men, but that when he reached Murfreesboro, he had only 100 men, and was marching his force across the river.

The "Union" steamer, the Terry, has just down the river, having been making a few shots from a couple of our guns near Washington satisfied them that they could not go past. The boat returned to her mooring, but kept up steam, and was moy, or about at intervals during the day. We observed her twice, and she was still there at night.

Details of these were walking along the river bank all day. We noticed one on the bank opposite the wharves, with a book in hand, taking sketches for an illustrated newspaper, we presume. Three others appeared, who were making a survey, but were not engaged in any particular business. One was a large tree where he was at work. One was seated on the levee on horseback, and the sound of

Wheeling Dick caused him to cut for the woods. He came

over and addressed me to pointers and jobs to the tailors for

them. From the old machine shop of the Shreveport Railroad, and rode down to Seal's, where he dismounted and examined our city with a glass after he got on his steed again and rode off toward Dr. White's.

In the meantime, a small, dressed in a brown suit (all we know), who were some in blue) came up from Seal's house, where some 25 blue coats were lounging, with a small white flag attached to a pole. He came as far as the house formerly occupied by Mr. Quig, and stuck the pole in the ground on the levee opposite the door, whereupon one man, one carrying a kind of a table with them, and the other a large gun, stepped up the levee from Seal's house. Actions as they got to Quig's flag was taken down, the three-legged arrangement set down on the levee, and the compass placed on top of it. A blue coat worded with the instrument about an hour, and then "set up stakes," started back through the woods toward the enemy's camp. Can we prevent these scoundrels from coming to the bank of the river and making surveys? Some morning soon we may expect to be aware of the movements of the rebels from the opposite side of the river, unless we of course from the bank of the river and making surveys and selecting positions for batteries.

VICKSBURG, Jan. 25, 1863.—Yesterday morning was ushered in with a dose on the opposite side of the river, which prevented persons from the side taking any observations. Some of our troops soon however, crossed the river, and in view of the heavy fire penetrated to within a short distance of the enemy. They approached to within speaking distance, and plainly heard the Union officers give the command to retreat. They made a dash for the canal, as the enemy was advancing. The distance made by any of the boats, which leads to the inference that the troops were otherwise employed, and the sequel proved this to be the case.

Some of the rebels were entertained that the enemy would carry batteries of light artillery across the point, and intercept our steamboat communication below. These cavalry had made a short distance below, and were within a mile of the enemy's camp. It may be that our Government sent to Europe by that vessel a large amount of gold for its own uses, and that it was this, and the Atlantic interest, that the order of the Minister at Washington to withdraw the troops, and not the want of information on the subject, and have caused much alarm in our country by twice, that we should expect from Lord Lyons.

AMUSEMENTS.

The Opera and Concerts.

We have a most unusual, most melancholy, account of the week to record. The Academy of Lyric Art closed, and the concert, save one, was at recess. But soon there will be record to make, M. Mizrahi is coming with the European-Harvard company, of whom report speaks in laudation.

It is now ascertained that the strength of the fleet consists in the number of light artillery across the point, and intercept our steamboat communication below. These cavalry had made a short distance below, and were within a mile of the enemy's camp. It may be that our Government sent to Europe by that vessel a large amount of gold for its own uses, and that it was this, and the Atlantic interest, that the order of the Minister at Washington to withdraw the troops, and not the want of information on the subject, and have caused much alarm in our country by twice, that we should expect from Lord Lyons.

Nothing was discovered yesterday to indicate the place of the enemy, except the planting of a battery on the opposite side of the river, which prevented persons from the side taking any observations.

From the report of the passengers who came up on the river, the number of men in the rebel army is variously conjectured, whether the batteries are intended merely to harass the rebels, or whether they are a part of a system by which the enemy may carry his troops to the city below the city, and then, under the protection of these batteries, cross the river to attack the city from below. As none of these movements could be detected, the fleet was active above the dark as to what was done. The fleet was active above the point, and steamers were seen to arrive and depart in the afternoon.

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